

Professor Joshua Lederberg

APR 8 1960

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Dear Dr. Lederberg,

please do not be cross with me that it took me almost exactly half a year to answer your cordial letter of September 29 th. Please do believe, that I really very much appreciated both your letter and your New-Year's greetings, ^{but} I am afraid I have a kind of disease, called if I am not mistaken "agraphia" - I always intend to answer a letter immediately, do not forget it, but I have such a difficulty in writing, that it takes often some months to realize the intention.

I very much appreciate your concern for international cooperation and share fully the opinions expressed by you on that problem. You asked for the names of USSR biologists who are interested in cosmic aspects of biology and especially, as I presume, in the microbiological aspects of this problem. I can mention in this connection the name of prof. N.D. Ierusalimsky, although I am not personally acquainted with him. His address is: Moscow - B - 71, Leninsky prospect, 33, Institute of Microbiology of the Academy of Sciences.

In your ²last letter you mentioned my last year's skiing accident. Some days ago I returned from a skiing holyday in one of the Caucasion mountain valleys. Nothing happened with

me, but at the same time and in the same valley my son took part in a mountain ascent of the highest degree of difficulty. It lasted - the weather being very bad indeed - for 11 days and 4 of the 12 mountaineers taking part in the ascent lost their life. We in ^{the} valley did not know the conditions of those who remained alive, and I have had psychologically an extremely hard time until my son finally descended intact.

I hope to visit USA in September for the High Energy Physics Conference in Rochester. If I will be able to visit after the conference your west coast - I would love to, but there is not very much hope I will be able to do it - I would be very glad to renew our acquaintance.

Please remember me to your wife.

Yours cordially,

J. Tamm Ig. Tamm.

W. C.
P.S. Is it true, that very numerous microorganisms were found in the water used for cooling the Los Alamos reactor? How can they preserve their genetic identity in the conditions of an enormous irradiation?[?] *J. T.*